

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, RP

SUBJECT: PRIMITIVO MIJARES CASE

REF: STATE 169129

1. ON JULY 27 ALL MANILA DAILIES PUBLISHED PRESIDENT MARCOS' CABLE TO JACK ANDERSON DENYING PRIMITIVO MIJARES' CHARGES THAT HE HAD ATTEMPTED BRIBE HIM (MIJARES) NOT TO TESTIFY BEFORE FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE. ON JULY 28 DAILY EXPRESS CARRIED COMPLETE TEXT OF UNDERSECRETARY INGLES' REPORT ON BRIBERY INVESTIGATION. BULLETIN AND TIMES JOURNAL ALSO CARRIED LENGTHY FRONT PAGE STORIES ON MIJARES CASE.

2. THERE HAS BEEN ONLY ONE EDITORIAL ON MIJARES ENTITLED "DEFECTOR'S CLAIMS ARE PREPOSTEROUS." IT APPEARED IN JULY 28 EXPRESS. EDITORIALIST ARGUES IT WAS UNFAIR OF ANDERSON TO PUBLISH UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS ABOUT MARCOS. EDITORIAL ALSO RAISES QUESTIONS ABOUT U.S. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE'S WILLINGNESS TO HEAR SUCH CHARGES WHICH "CANNOT BUT SMACK OF INTERFERENCE ON (SIC) THE AFFAIRS OF A SOVEREIGN STATE."

3. COMMENT: MASSIVE PUBLICITY GIVEN MARCOS CABLE TO ANDERSON AND INGLES REPORT SUGGESTS GOP CONSIDERABLY CON-

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CERNED AT EFFECT MIJARES CHARGES MAY HAVE ON GOP IMAGE

AND INTERESTS IN U.S. AND PARTICULARLY IN U.S. CONGRESS.
FACT THAT GOVERNMENT WAITED SO LONG TO SURFACE STORY,
WHICH HAS BEEN COMMON KNOWLEDGE HERE FOR SOME TIME,
HARDLY ENHANCES GOP CREDIBILITY. GOP'S PRESENT TACTIC
SEEMS TO BE TO SO THOROUGHLY DISCREDIT MIJARES THAT
CRITICS OF THE REGIME IN THE U.S. WILL DROP HIM AND SEEK
MORE SAVORY INDIVIDUAL TO HELP MAKE THEIR CASE
AGAINST MARCOS. PRESUMABLY GOP HAS ALSO CONSIDERED
POSSIBILITY INGLES REPORT WILL RAISE ADDITIONAL EMBAR-
RASSING QUESTIONS (E.G. MIJARES ROLE AS UNREGISTERED
AGENT OF FOREING GOVERNMENT SEEKING TO INFLUENCE
U.S. PUBLIC THROUGH MEDIA, ETC.) BUT EVIDENTLY FEELS
THAT TO NEUTRALIZE MIJARES RISK IS WORTH TAKING.
SULLIVAN

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